

CLINTON HILL NEWSLETTER

Published by Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council - Special Issue - October 1961 - No. 18
26 Shanley Avenue, Newark, N. J.

Next Meeting of the
CLINTON HILL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Assembly
Oct. 5 Thursday
8:15 p.m.
26 Shanley Ave. Corner Avon

1. Save-Our-Homes Report
2. Educational problems
3. Supermarket project
4. Nominating committee

All Welcome - Delegates please attend

SCHOOLS OPEN WITH NEW PROBLEMS

Speaking for the education committee before the Board of Education on Sept. 26, Mrs. L. Randall asked for an end to split-session classes before the Belmont-Ramsey temporary school is completed sometime next year.

Mrs. Randall also asked why Dr. Kennelly should be "amazed" at a record 66,000 enrollment when the CHNC had been warning of increased pupil population for the last 3 years.

She informed the Board that children still were not allowed to eat lunch at Bergen St. or Avon Ave. schools despite several orders to Kennelly by the Board that this should be allowed.

Board President Pacha reported that some arrangements had been worked out to allow children to stay in the buildings to eat in "inclement weather."

At the same meeting, Mr. Clyde Ferguson of the legal committee of the Newark NAACP announced that Paul Zuber, lawyer in the New Rochelle, N. Y., desegregation case, had been retained to prepare a suit against the school officials for their new redistricting plan for high school students.

Enrollment figures for the first 6 days of school follow:

	1960	1961
Avon School	1145	1661
Bergen St.	1723	1930
Madison	910	954
Clinton Pl. J.H.	1764	1751
Miller St.	1444	1517
Swathorne	853	917

FIGHT TO SAVE-OUR-HOMES FROM "BLIGHT" TAG
GAINS SPEED. NOVEMBER 1 MEETING OF
CITY COUNCIL IS TARGEST DATE.

Plans to fight a Central Planning Board blight tag placed on 40 blocks containing 1750 residential structures holding 15,000 people were made on Friday, September 29, by 100 Clinton Hillers.

The 40 blocks run from Bergen St. to Belmont Ave. and from Avon to Watson Aves.

The meeting was held at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, J. W. Mapson pastor. Rev. Mapson also was meeting chairman in his capacity as head of the Save-Our-Homes-Committee.

According to Daniel Lubetkin, legal counsel to the committee, a large turnout will be essential on November 1, at 8 p.m., when the City Council takes up the recommendation that the area be declared "blighted."

South Ward Councilwoman Sophie Cooper and Central Ward Councilman Irvine Turner assured the group of their support and urged the audience to appear in large numbers on Nov. 1.

Rev. S. D. Thomas and Rev. Daniel Reed of the Baptist Ministers Conference and several other leading churchmen voiced their solidarity. The Conference, on Sept. 25, took a stand in opposition to the "blight" label.

According to Lubetkin, a law suit is clearly indicated if the City Council approves or fails to modify substantially the blight declaration from its original purpose - a mass clearance of residences and replacement of 15,000 people with factories, warehouses, trucking areas and other industrial uses.

The lawsuit, Lubetkin said, would aim to show that the area is not blighted and that inadequate, inaccurate, and irregular methods were used by the Housing Authority in collecting its evidence.

Legal Fund

A legal fund has been started to defray the expenses in a possible lawsuit, it was reported by Stanley B. Winters, CHNC president.

The money would be used only for court fees and secretarial help because Lubetkin and his two colleagues have volunteered their services free of charge.

Many persons present signed up as volunteers to help the committee. ###

ALL PAID UP!

Council members can be proud that the new electric micrograph machine is all paid up. Special thanks are due Wickman Holmes, treasurer, who ran the auction on Sept. 9.

SUPERMARKET BATTLE

A threat to the entire 14-block rehabilitation program in Clinton Hill was seen by CHNC leaders in the persistent efforts by the city planning division to foist a supermarket on the residents on nearby blocks, especially Chadwick Ave.

The proposed supermarket would occupy more than half a block between Clinton and Madison Aves. where about 100 families now occupy 30 buildings. These buildings would be cleared as part of the proposed plan.

Chadwick Ave. (North) block-branch leaders have repeatedly pointed out the nuisances which a supermarket brings and the fact that sizeable local shopping facilities now exist.

Small businessmen have privately voiced concern about the supermarket. The CHNC on Aug. 10 voted to oppose the project unless new off use was submitted.

CHNC president Stan Winters said, "No alternative to a supermarket has been scientifically studied. We're being snowed."

BE THERE! NOW. 1st, CITY COUNCIL, 8 p.m.

CO-OP HOUSING PROGRESS

Progress was reported in the effort of the Clinton Hill Co-Op Housing Committee to bring middle-income (genuine!) apartments into the 14-block Urban Rehabilitation Project area.

Planning officers George Oberlander and Hank Sirlin have reported that the price of land to be cleared to co-op housing in the southern end of the project will be low enough to attract a non-profit or limited dividend developer.

The planners are also reportedly more receptive now to higher-rise buildings because of the shortage of decent mid-income apartments.

Shirley Bodes, head of the Middle Income Housing Foundation had previously shown interest in a Clinton Hill site, so long as land cost and high-rise were allowable.

The Co-Op Committee will next meet on Monday, October 9, at 8 p.m. at 870 S. 15 St. Aronowitz residence, to discuss next steps.

VOTER DRIVE ENDS

About 2,000 Clinton Hillers were registered to vote in a recent 2-month drive, it was reported by William Payne, a leader in the campaign which included the NAACP and several local political clubs. Worry over housing, "blight," and school problems helped to get people out, Payne said. ###

From
Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council
26 Stanley Avenue
Newark 8 New Jersey

To

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY